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Appl. No. 10/816,840
Amdt. Dated December 17, 2004
Reply to Office action of August 19, 2004

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

- 1.(currently amended) A vacuum cleaner comprising:
 - (a) a cleaning head for cleaning a surface;
 - (b) a cyclone container having a longitudinally extending wall having an inner surface, an outer surface, a bottom and a longitudinally extending axis;
 - (c) a fluid inlet to the at least one cyclone container; and,
 - (d) a fluid conduit integrally formed as part of the cyclone container and forming part of an air flow path through the vacuum cleaner.
2. (original) The vacuum cleaner as claimed in claim 1 wherein the fluid conduit extends through a central portion of the cyclone container.
3. (Original) The vacuum cleaner as claimed in claim 1 wherein the fluid conduit includes an exit portion which extends within the cyclone container from the central portion outwardly to the fluid inlet.
4. (Currently amended) The vacuum cleaner as claimed in claim 1 wherein the fluid inlet is positioned adjacent the inner longitudinally extending wall of the cyclone container.
5. (Currently amended) The vacuum cleaner as claimed in claim 1 wherein the fluid conduit has an outlet portion, and the outlet portion and the fluid inlet are configured to redirect air traveling there through in a first direction towards the longitudinally extending wall and in a second direction to introduce the fluid tangentially to the cyclone container.

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6. (Original) The vacuum cleaner as claimed in claim 1 wherein the fluid conduit is positioned exterior to the cyclone container.
7. (Original) The vacuum cleaner as claimed in claim 1 wherein in the fluid conduit extends linearly.
8. (Original) The vacuum cleaner as claimed in claim 1 wherein the fluid conduit is positioned exterior to the cyclone container and the fluid conduit extends linearly.
9. (Original) The vacuum cleaner as claimed in claim 1 wherein the fluid conduit extends through the cyclone container to an opening in the bottom of the cyclone container and comprises an air exit for the cyclone container.
10. (Original) The vacuum cleaner as claimed in claim 9 wherein the fluid conduit extends linearly.
11. - 15 (Cancelled).
16. (New) The vacuum cleaner as claimed in claim 6 wherein the fluid conduit is positioned adjacent the outer surface of the longitudinally extending wall.
17. (New) The vacuum cleaner as claimed in claim 16 wherein the fluid conduit is an air feed conduit to the cyclone container.
18. (New) The vacuum cleaner as claimed in claim 16 wherein the fluid conduit is an air exit conduit to the cyclone container.
19. (New) The vacuum cleaner as claimed in claim 8 wherein the fluid conduit is positioned adjacent the outer surface of the longitudinally extending wall.

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20. (New) The vacuum cleaner as claimed in claim 1 wherein the vacuum cleaner further comprises a housing and the cyclone container further comprises a moveable portion moveable between a first closed position and a second position in which access is permitted to the cyclone container and the cyclone container is removable from the housing with the moveable portion in the closed position.
21. (New) The vacuum cleaner as claimed in claim 20 wherein the bottom of the cyclone container is fixed to the longitudinally extending wall and the movable portion is a lid of the cyclone container.
22. (New) The vacuum cleaner as claimed in claim 1 wherein the cyclone container has an opening in the bottom of the cyclone container that comprises an air exit for the cyclone container and the integrally formed fluid conduit is in airflow communication with the opening.